Mission Statement
“To preserve and protect Pompeys Pillar National Monument through education, interpretation, and special projects, and to support the BLM in its management of the site.”

Signture News
Summer 2018

Big Events for Summer 2018

JULY 25, 2018 – SIGNATURE DAY
Join us as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail and the 212th anniversary of the William Clark & the Corps of Discovery visit to Pompeys Pillar.

Living History Presentation
William Clark
10:00 AM TO 11:30 AM

Pompeys Pillar National Monument
3039 U.S. Highway 312, Pompeys Pillar, MT 59064
1-94 Exit 23
Call 406-875-2400 for more information

SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 – 1ST ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL
Free Admission to the Pillar & the event begins at 7:00 AM with a Bird Walk, followed by a 5K Fun Run at 8:30 AM. Pancake Breakfast at 10:00 AM.
There will be a Rock Climbing Wall – Cornhole Tournament – Food Trucks – Children’s Activities Pumpkins & Corn Maze

Special Guest Speaker, Stephan Sylvester
‘The Corps of Discovery: Tomahawks, Rifles & Food for Thought’
At 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM

Event Goes Until 4:00 and provides a fantastic opportunity for members of our community to enjoy free access to public lands and to experience living history is a fun, informative family setting.

Pompeys Pillar National Monument
3039 U.S. Highway 312, Pompeys Pillar, MT 59064
1-94 Exit 23
Call 406-875-2400 for more information
Happy Summer everyone! What’s with this weather we’ve been having? We already have our yearly normal precipitation! It sure does make it green and beautiful, but all the moisture has been causing some issues. There’s not much we can do but be well prepared, and thanks to the hard work of Pompeys Pillar National Monument staff, BLM fire-crews and volunteers, damage to the grounds was kept to a minimum. Thank you to all who helped!

I am amazed at how many people I talk to in Billings who have never visited the Pillar or haven’t been out for the last ten years! I’m asking all of you to help me out with this, I’ve created a list of the top ten reasons to visit Pompeys Pillar National Monument; please share with your friends, family and acquaintances. If you are one of those who haven’t visited the Pillar in a while, I invite all of you to come and visit the Monument too!

The top ten reasons to visit Pompeys Pillar National Monument.

10. See marmots at play.
9. Have a picnic at one of the many tables.
7. Fishing in the Yellowstone River.
6. Check out our new viewing binoculars on top of the Pillar.
5. Watch one of our many new videos in the visitor’s center.
4. View the new signs displaying the antique farm equipment.
3. Climb the Rock.
2. Visit the fabulous gift shop.
1. View William Clark’s signature.

Thank you for your continued support, we hope to see you at the Pillar as a regular visitor or at one of our upcoming events.

Neal
Greetings,

We had some high water here at Pompeys Pillar National Monument over the Memorial Day weekend and came close to the Educational Center (Log Cabin). In preparation for the flooding we had placed sand bags around the building. We really appreciate the Billings Field Office, Wildland Firefighters and Pompeys Pillar National Monument Staff and Volunteers for helping with this project. We did not need to close the Pillar, Interpretive Center or the Educational Center during the flood, but some of our walkways and trails near the river were closed. We sustained some damage to the shoreline and the water brought a lot of sediment and has undercut one of our concrete walkways.

We have a great opportunity this year to promote the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System. As you know we are one of the premier locations on the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail and not only is it the 50th Anniversary of the National Trail System, it is also the 40th Anniversary of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Our next event is our Signature Day Event on July 25, 2018. We will have a living history presentation, and some refreshments to celebrate 212 years of William Clarks Signature. This event will kick off at 10:00am and finish at approximately 11:30am. We are also gearing up for the Fall Festival on Saturday, September 29, 2018.

Here are a few updates:
The new Highway Signs were installed on May 8, 2018.
The new kids play equipment which features natural play structures (logs, stumps and log rounds and an artificial rock) were installed in May.

Part of our National Trails Day Event here on June 2, 2018 was to install interpretive signs at the old Farmstead. This is also a location where we are hosting some farm equipment on loan from the Huntley Project Museum. These interpretive signs help tell the story of the Yellowstone River Valley and the early way of life of farming and the irrigation project. We have a few more signs to install and those should be completed in June.

We recently hired Valerie Glowinski as the new Career Seasonal Park Ranger – Interpretation. She started on May 30, 2018.

Valerie started her government career with the National Park Service as a seasonal Park Ranger at Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico and also at Glacier National Park in Montana. For the last six years, Valerie has held various positions with the U.S. Forest Service. These include a Visitor Information Specialist on the Dillon Ranger District in Colorado, a Park Ranger & Volunteer Coordinator and also Raptor Ranger at the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area in Oregon and currently she is the Interpretive Specialist for the Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area in California.

Valerie is looking forward to making Montana her home with the BLM at Pompeys Pillar National Monument. Her other passions beside interpretation and education include hiking and photography. An avid birder, she always has an eye to the sky. She’s an animal lover, owned by two very spoiled cats. They like bird watching too, but they’re only allowed to watch from inside the house! Please join me in welcoming Valerie to the Billing Field Office and Pompeys Pillar National Monument.
I really want to take this time to Thank all of the faithful volunteers how much we appreciate your assistance with staffing our school programs during the month of May and part of June. We could not have done it without you. We hosted over 30 schools, 1485 students and provided 289 programs. We appreciate the support as we continue to share all of the amazing resources found at Pompeys Pillar National Monument. We are well underway this season and we seem to be getting quite a few more visitors. We are also glad to see many new volunteers joining with us to help meet the demand for informative and educational programs, maintaining the site, operating the gift shop, and other supportive roles to help accomplish our mission over the years.

Thank you for all of your support,

John A. Reffit
Monument Manager

Thoughts From the President

Well, the 2018 season is well underway! We made it through the opening tribulations and hopefully all our volunteers have settled into a smooth and rewarding volunteer experience.

I would also like to thank all of you for your support for the Monument and for the Friends of Pompeys Pillar. The Friends can’t succeed without a lot of help. Thank you for all who volunteer as interpreters, in the gift shop, helping to manage all the different school groups and other groups that come during the summer. Last year we had over 1000 hours of volunteer support. This allows us to offer everyone coming to Pompeys Pillar National Monument an enjoyable and informative experience.

There is another important way that volunteer hours are valuable. We are constantly applying for grants to help with special programs. Grantors want to see that grantees have local community support; our hours clearly demonstrate that. Sometimes a value is placed on those hours to serve as a match for funding; the Federal rate for volunteer hours is $20.00 per hour. Your support generates $20,000 as a grant match! Volunteer hours provided a huge amount of the Federal match used to build the Visitors Center as well as many other projects.

I also want to thank all of you for your financial support through memberships and donations. The Friends are dependent on memberships and donations to provide for basic operations: salaries, rent, and utilities. Grants will pay for things but don’t cover those very necessary costs. Thanks to all of you for your continuing support. Let’s look forward to a great summer 2018!

Susan Barrow
Rock the Run!

(For more info contact us at info@pompeyspillar.org or 406-969-5380)

The opening event for this year’s Fall Festival will be the inaugural Rock the Run! a 5K tour of the monument. All runners and walkers are welcome! The race is professionally timed; there will be special race T-shirts, and awards for separate divisions. The Pillar crew is busy building a trail that will wind through the property; it will be a bit different than traditional pavement. So, save the date, dust off your sneakers, and plan on joining us on Saturday, September 29th. A registration form will be available later this summer. For more info, contact us at info@pompeyspillar.org or 406-969-5380.

Business Development Director’s Corner

It’s exciting to be part of the Friends of Pompeys Pillar staff, thank you all for your warm welcome. My focus over the last two months has been to create and then sell sponsorship packages to local businesses in support of our upcoming, ‘First Annual Fall Festival’. I’m pleased to report that we’re off to a great start!

I’ve been impressed with the level of community support I have seen from the businesses I’ve contacted to date, only one graciously declined. If any of you own your own business or know of entrepreneurs who would be willing to purchase a sponsorship package or donate a gift to give to the winners of the fun run or cornhole tournament, please forward their contact information to me. I’ve attached the sponsorship package below so you can see the benefits of each level.

Thank you all for your very fine support!

Trudie Biggers
Current Members

Sandra Anderson
Susan & Bruce Barrow
Brian & Trudie Biggers
Pete & Leslie Boothroyd
Linda Brewer
Nora Buchholz
Michael R. Clark
Esther Cuthbertson
Deanna Darnielle - Darnielle Insurance
Sue Delger
Hank & Kay Deming
Melody Dobson
Thomas Doneker
Brenda Eichele
Alyssa Francis
Andrew Freestone
Carlos & Velia Galvin
Susan Gilbertz
Neal Gunnels
Carmen Hall
Lotsie & Rick Holton
Rob Hughes
Image N’ That
Julie Jackson
Eileen & George Jensen
Carolyn Jones

Ruby Kammerer
Marvin & Judy Kastrop
Larry Keifer
Jodi Kinn
Keith Kolstad
Dave Lafevre
Mike & Carol Lamphier
John LaVar
Charles & Ruth Lechner
Rachel Lehnmann
Gerald & Roslyn Lenander
Edward & Muriel Lenhardt
Armand & Arle Lohof
Richard & Cheryl Mankle
James Mariska
Michael Marsh, RASE LLC
Jennifer Mayrand
Barbara McGregor
Christina Miller
Gary Moore
John & Priscilla Moorhouse
Mark & Teresa Morse
Jessica Mowry
Mary Jo & Jerry Noser
Linda Lou Porter
Roger & Pat Otstot

Ron & Sherri Ramseyer
Patricia Rathman
Norman Schoenthal
Terry Smith
Don Stanaway
Stan & Debbie Sternberg
Majorie Stoick
Sheryl Stout
Cathy Stroehr
Kalman Tinka
Jimmy R. Vanzant
Carl & Roberta Vender
Milt & Gloria Wester
Bill and Lisa Weaver - Baskin Robbins
Tom & Peg Wickliffe

New Donations
Bobcat of Big Sky

Memorial for Gladys Newlin Baugh
Milt & Gloria Wester

Grants
Bureau of Land Management

Volunteers

Jordan Barnes
Gen Becker
Leslie Boothroyd
Pete Boothroyd
Linda Brewer
Chris Cummings
Sharon Cummings
Grace Enzenbacher
Ron Enzenbacher
Larry Field
Ervin Fischer
Joan Fischer
Dennis Franklin
Robin Graham
Zach Gray

Karen Honkomp
Judy Hugelen
Eileen Jensen
Carolyn Jones
Steven Kramer
Keith Kolstad
Daniel Krum
John LaVar
Dave Lefevre
Linda Lefevre
Carol Lamphier
Arlee Lohof
Armond Lohof
Cheryl Mankle
Rich Mankle
Walter Marten

Robert Newman
Rose Newman
Pat Otstot
Roger Otstot
Dennis Patton
Christina Victoria Petty
Clarence Robinson
Steve Rosh
Carol Roy
Dick Roy
Jeffery Sherman
Sheryl Stout
Cathy Stroehr
Carl Vender
Roberta Vender

Board Members

Susan Barrow, President
Kalman Tinka, Vice President
Alyssa Francis, Secretary
Susan Gilbertz
Joyce Jensen
Jodi Kinn
Michael Lamphier

Staff

Neal Gunnels, Executive Director
Linda Farnes, Gift Store Manager
Trudie Biggers, Business Development Director